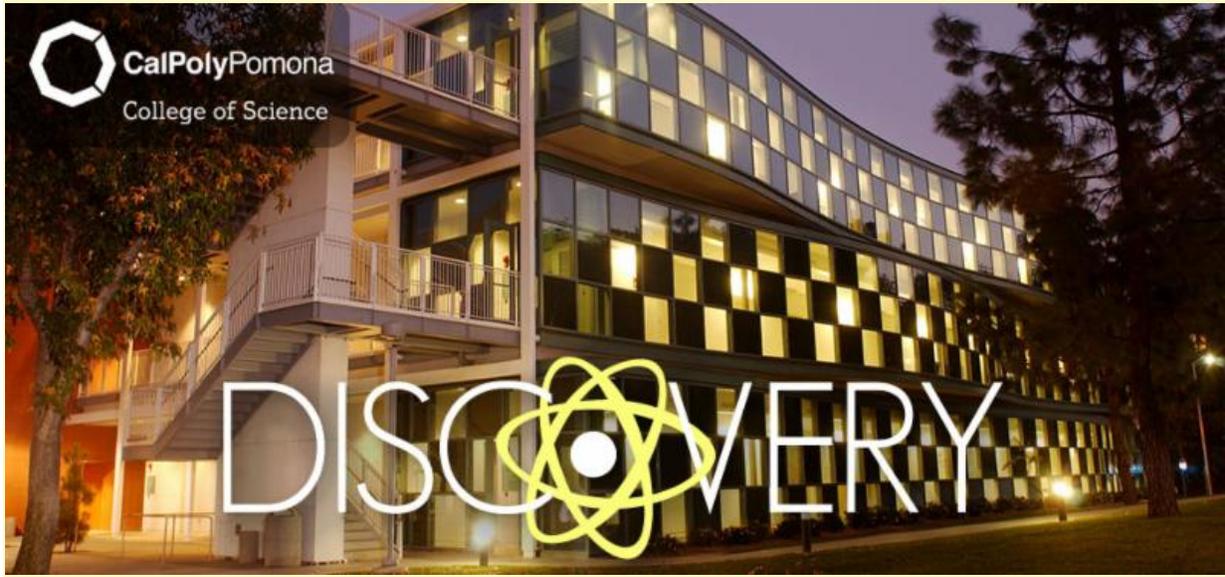


December 2020



Holiday Greetings,

As we conclude our Fall 2020 semester and prepare for a well-deserved winter break, I want to say THANK YOU to our dedicated faculty and staff. I'm very grateful for your hard

work and commitment to our students. Together, we delivered our first fully virtual semester in the history of Cal Poly Pomona!

The holidays are a time for enjoying friends and family, taking stock of the good that we sometimes overlook in our busy lives, and resting so we can be ready for the new year.

I look forward to the new year with gratitude for your efforts and with hope for our future.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy, and joyful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Alison Baski
Dean, College of Science

SheCodes Supports Success of Women in CS

"After my demonstration of the banana piano, the young girl told her mom she thought it was so cool, and her mom said, 'you can be a scientist like her!' It was heart-warming to hear and made me realize I didn't really see women as scientists when I was younger. **I hadn't even thought of myself as a scientist until that moment,**" said sheCodes External VP Camryn Sumabat.



[Read More](#)

BioTrek Hosts Virtual Field Trips



BioTrek's outdoor learning spaces are a valuable resource for CPP students and also draw K-12 students and visitors from the community. In a typical year, thousands of K-12 students make field trips to BioTrek.

"We're hoping to do 15-20 virtual tours per semester," Biological Sciences Professor Ed Bobich said. "It's a field-trip-like experience that helps break up the routine and teaches students about some interesting animals and plants, and how Native Americans used plants for food and medicine."

[Read More](#)

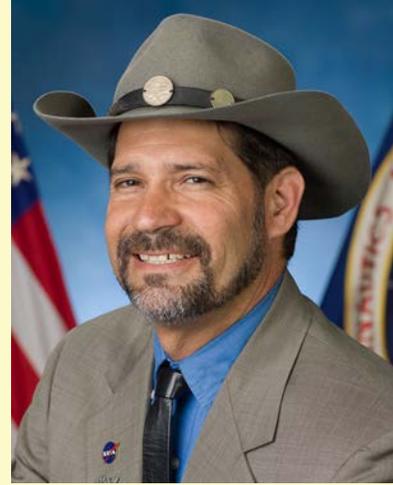
Physics Alumnus Glenn Johnson Helps Improve Life in Space

"There's no degree that prepares you to be a space toilet

specialist but your degree shows that you know how to learn,” said alumnus Glenn Johnson ('91, physics).

“Potty training” is just one of many things he’s done for NASA astronauts. Things that we take for granted in our daily lives require training and practice when you’re living in zero gravity. He’s trained astronauts how to prepare food and eat, and how to avoid dangerous carbon dioxide bubbles while sleeping.

[Read More](#)



News



Associate Dean Lisa Alex is Retiring

Associate Dean Lisa Alex has announced that she will retire. Her last day will be December 30.

Dr. Alex has had an exemplary 22+ year career at Cal Poly Pomona. She has served as Associate Dean for Operations and Students in the College of Science since July 2019. Prior to that she served eight years as Chair of the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department.

Dr. Alex demonstrated leadership throughout her career. For example, she served as Vice-Chair (2008-10) and Chair (2010 -12) of the Academic Senate, member of the Advisory Committee to the Trustees for Presidential Selection (2014-15), Presidential Fellow for Strategic Planning (2016-17), and advisor to Science Council for 18 years. Dr. Alex was honored with the 2018 George P. Hart Award for Outstanding Faculty Leadership, in 2010 with

an ASI honorary lifetime membership and in 2004 with the COS Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award.

Please join us in thanking Dr. Lisa Alex for her many years of service and wish her a happy and fulfilling retirement.

The College of Science Announces new Scholarship

The **CSU Leader in Science Scholarship** recognizes exceptional student leadership and achievement in the College of Science. This scholarship is endowed by a biotechnology alumnus who devoted their undergraduate career to serving their community and is thus awarded to students who also seek to improve the lives of others through their extracurricular activities/advocacy.

The annual scholarship is \$2,500 and is open to College of Science undergraduates in any major. Applications open January 4, 2021.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Biology Major **Kassandra Lopez** Receives CSUPERB Research Scholar Award

Kassandra Lopez was honored with the 2021 Doris A. Howell Foundation - CSUPERB Research Scholar Award. The \$3,500 award will support her research project titled, "Investigating the role of CD64 in the Neutrophil mediated killing of *Trichomonas vaginalis* via trogocytosis."

Under the guidance of faculty mentor Frances Mercer, Lopez is investigating how the immune system kills the parasite. "The goal is to understand the molecules used by the immune system to kill the parasite to help target their induction using vaccines," Lopez said.

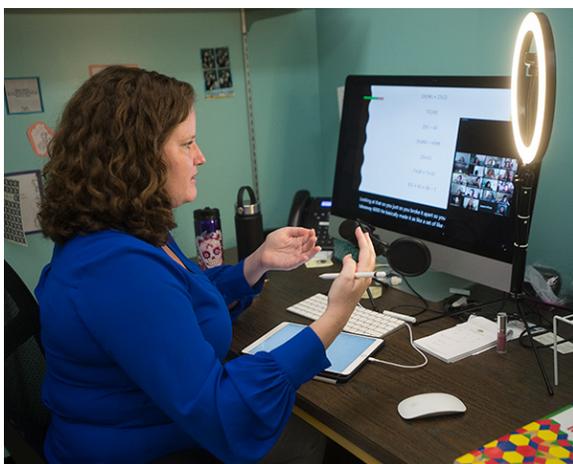
Lopez is a general biology major graduating in May 2021 and plans to attend graduate school.



Alumnus **Tharindu Jayasinghe** Receives Two Prestigious Awards

Tharindu Jayasinghe, ('17, physics) who is a graduate student at The Ohio State University has been honored with the OSU Presidential Fellowship and the Markowitz Award in Observational Astronomy.

During his career at CPP Jayasinghe worked with faculty mentor Associate Professor Matthew Povich on the Milky Way Project that catalogued 2,600 nebulae. Jayasinghe was the 2017 CPP College of Science McPhee Scholar and Valedictorian.



Anne Cawley From the Department of Mathematics and Statistics is Featured in CPP Magazine

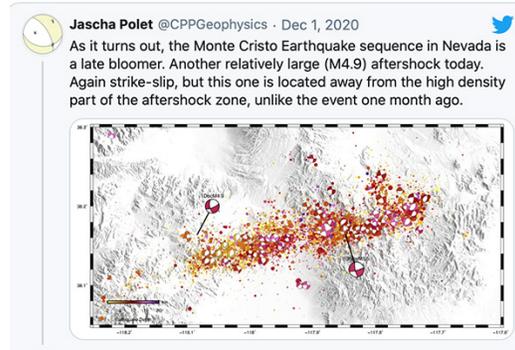
Assistant Professor Anne Cawley is a champion for equity and student success. Through a grant-funded program, Cawley provides professional development to Bronco Scholars math faculty. Bronco Scholars is a five week summer program for incoming freshman who may need additional help with math or English.

[READ CPP MAGAZINE ARTICLE](#)

Professor Jascha Polet's Tweets Featured on Fox News

Professor Jascha Polet from the Department

of Geological Sciences posted about the December 1 earthquake in Nevada. Seismology is one of Polet's areas of expertise and she often tweets timely and relevant scientific information about seismological events. [Fox News](#) shared her tweets. Follow her at [@CPPGeophysics](#)



The Poly Pantry has Reopened

Poly Pantry 2 Go provides no-contact pickup. [Online registration required here.](#)

Events

2021 Research Scholarship & Creative Activities Conference (RSCA) March 6

Apply before January 27 to present your research at the RSCA Conference, taking place virtually on Saturday, March 6, 2021! Students who participate at the RSCA conference will also have an opportunity to be selected to represent CPP at the 35th Annual CSU Student Research Competition April 30 & May 1.



[Apply Now](#)



Professor for a Day

The Week of March 8-12

This popular annual event offers an opportunity for alumni to share their career experience with students, and for students learn about career options.

The College of Science will hold virtual alumni panels. Times to be determined. Check [events page](#) for updates.

Pictured left is 2019's biological sciences panel.

[More Information](#)

Giving Day 2021

April 21-22

The College of Science raised close to \$19,000 during the annual university-wide fundraising event. We're looking for Giving Day Ambassadors who are willing to reach out to their networks via email, text

messages, and social media. We're also looking for matching gifts to kick off the event. **Please contact Melissa Martinez for more information.**

Giving Day Page



Information and Resources

- [Fall 2020 Virtual Advising & Academics Toolkit](#)
- [Academic and Student Services Support](#)
- [Broncos Care Basic Needs Program](#)
- [College of Science Advising Information](#)
- [CPP Safer Return](#)
- [CPP COVID-19 Updates](#)
- [Student FAQs About the Campus Response to COVID-19](#)
- [Faculty Resources From the Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence](#)
- [Zoom & Online Learning Resources \(How-to Info\)](#)

New Publications

If you have a recent publication that is not included, please let us know so that it can be listed in next month's newsletter! email: djgriggs@cpp.edu

1. Meyer-Gutbrod, E. L., Love, M. S., Schroeder, D. M., **Claisse, J. T.**, Kui, L., and Miller, R. J.. 2020. Forecasting the legacy of offshore oil and gas platforms on fish community structure and productivity. *Ecological Applications* 30(8):e02185. <https://doi.org/10.1002/eap.2185>

2. Muljana, P., **Selco, J.**, Feldman, R., Gaston, T., & Choi, B. (2020). When Chemical Bonding is Perceived Simple and Interesting: The Design and Development of a Learning Object. *International Journal of Designs for Learning*, 11(3), 148-161. <https://doi.org/10.14434/ijdl.v11i3.28801>

Support the College of Science

College of Science Advising Center

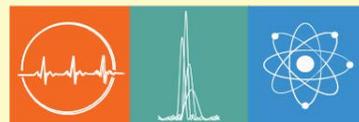


IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Dec. 4 - Jan. 4:** Add/drop period for Winter 2021
- Dec. 7 - 13:** Finals week
- Dec. 13:** Last day to withdraw for serious and compelling reasons and receive a "WX"
- Dec. 18:** Last day to drop and receive a 100% refund for Winter 2021
- Dec. 20:** Last day to drop w/o course being recorded (Winter 2021)
- Dec. 25 - Jan. 1:** Winter break (campus closed)
- Jan. 4:** Winter term begins
- Jan. 11:** Add/Drop period begins
- Jan. 21:** Winter term finals
- Jan 23:** First Day of Spring 2021
Semester Weekday classes will begin January 25



College of Science Advising Center



Advisors are working remotely.

Contact by email at:
sci_advising@cpp.edu

You can
[schedule an appointment](#)
through CPP Connect.



Our Mission:

**Educate, mentor, and inspire students through scientific inquiry
and hands-on learning**

Follow us on social media [cpp_science](#)

